

Sunday, February 11, 2018 – Last Sunday after Epiphany

Sermon: We are Priests

Read 1 Peter 2:9-17



When we hear the word priest we usually think of a member of the Roman Catholic clergy. Peter writes that all who are disciples of Jesus are priests. When we live as disciples of Jesus that is who we are.



We need to remember we are residents of God's Kingdom. The Kingdom we pray about every time we pray the Lord's prayer. We are aliens here. We are to be in this world, but not a part of it. We are citizens of God's Kingdom. We have a mission here in the world. We are to make a difference. To make a difference we must be different. If we are the same, we do not make a difference. We need to stay different. We do not act like snobs, but we show what Jesus has done in our lives.



As priests we stand between God and humans. We represent people to God. We are to bring the needs of the world to God. It is up to us to be the ones who go to God. Through Jesus we have the ability to go to the Father. We are to seek God. Go before the throne of God and ask for God's actions. As a part of the royal priesthood we represent the world to God.



We represent God to the world. Another term for us in the Bible is that we are ambassadors from God. An ambassador is not a citizen where they live. They are citizens of their homeland. We are citizens of the Kingdom of God. We are to represent the Kingdom by the way we live. Our lives should be different from the world. It is easy to fall into the trap of being absorbed into the world. We want to fit in with everyone else. We are to be an example. To do this we must let Jesus change us. It is not being a people of faith just by what we think, but also how we act.



There are people who like to quote St. Francis who said that we should preach Christ always and use words when necessary. They say this to say that they do not need to talk about Jesus. If we lived like St. Francis that would be true. He was completely sold out to Jesus, but we are not there. We need to talk. Look for opportunities to talk about Jesus. How do we really feel about Jesus? Do we think He is necessary in life? If we believe Jesus is the Savior of the world then we will want to tell others, so they can know Jesus also. Make a difference by helping others find Jesus.